

2/21/2012

Mountain Bike Visioning Session Notes

1. Comments on proposed vision statement

Excellence in mountain biking is a normal part of recreation management on Wisconsin's public lands, where high quality mountain biking experiences are provided in an ecologically and socially sustainable manner across the landscape, and where riders are advocates for public lands acknowledging that Wisconsin provides premier mountain bicycling experiences. DRAFT 2/20/2012

- Public lands advocates
 - Change to stewards
- Extend to private lands (open to public rec.)
- "Lands open to the public"
- "Protect public lands and create premier mountain bike experience in Wisconsin"
- No passive words
- Start "Mountain Biking"
- Define mountain biking broadly to include multiple off-road experiences
- Add stewardship
- Change "~~normal~~"
- Eliminate qualifiers (judgment words), but keep passion.
- Add education to mission statement or a high part of goals
- See WORBA mission statement – protect, preserve, expand/enhance

Include definitions in the plan:

- Sustainable trail
- Mountain Biking

2. Notes from brainstorming session

- Greater visibility and communications on mountain bike group at trailhead and on web
- State one pager about recreational immunity
- State provide encouragement for private land owners to allow trails – write off on property taxes
- State mountain bike call/webinars like ped and pedal
- Allow a property manager to evaluate his land for mountain biking (policy?)
- Bike Federation of Wisconsin team or list of certified trail builders around the state to give advice, run classes and build trails
- Access – more access to all public lands – bullets and hooks lands
- State/government must be able to support the volunteer groups
- Non-race organized ride – Social networking
- Funding for trails should be included/identified in state budget but mountain biking will always be a grass roots/volunteer driven activity

- Handout at trailheads about who maintains the trail
- Bike Fed/State seminar about working with land managers
- Assure lands are open to mountain biking unless the land is inappropriate
- Creating places for all genres of mountain biking
- Higher quality trails
- Mountain bike trails as transportation infrastructure
- Economic impact for community
- Quality trails
- Pursue funding with other trail user groups (hikers, horse riders...)
- Educate land managers about trail work
- Equal access to public lands – NBOA
- Access to dedicated funding for trail work – a segregated fund
- Information sources or help creating/negotiating easements and access with public on private property
- Mountain Bikers on State Bike Federation board – for lobbying efforts
- Get Dept. of Tourism involved with communication
- Off-road cycling is targeted at specific people – making a license optional is like trying to sell a warranty on a car. A lot of new mountain bike people won't buy into it
- Trying to make the accessible and easily available for women and children to use. Balance bikes are huge and women want to get into off-road cycling, but feel uncomfortable on “private” trails. It would be healthful to promote mountain biking to moms and kids,
- Open forum discussions on a community level
- Local organizations raising money as a non-profit conservation organization matching the funding
- Partner with other conservation groups (i.e. Horse groups)
- Education focus
- Grant money – start small and will flow uphill
- Mountain Biking as NBOA
- Dedicated funding source
- Registration program for all bikes that becomes a dedicated funding source
- Some type of mountain bike registration to fund maintenance and development of more trails
- Education!! Public/public officials
- More trails, more trails, more trails designated to mountain bike only
- Funding/Education
- Self-imposed funding mechanism
- Segregated fund (at state level)
- Education
- More skills parks and trail features
- Educate locally
- Equal, fair access. NBOA – Nature Based Outdoor Activities (hunt, fish, trap, hike, cross country ski)

- Access to dedicated funding
- Education of land managers
- Integrate mountain bike trails into transportation system